

# Minutes

## October 25, 2007

The Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board of the Office of State Ethics (the Board) held its regular meeting on Thursday, October 25, 2007 at 1:30 p.m., in Conference Room 2-A, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT 06106.

Chairperson Robert Worgaftik called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

The following members of the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board attended the meeting:

- Robert Worgaftik, Chairperson
- Jaclyn Bernstein
- Rebecca Doty
- Michael Rion
- Sister Sally J. Tolles
- Dennis Riley participated by phone, for portions of the meeting

Vice-Chairperson Enid Oresman was absent.

The following staff members of the Office of State Ethics attended all or portions of the meeting:

- Beverly Hodgson, Interim Executive Director
- Barbara Housen, General Counsel
- Thomas Jones, Ethics Enforcement Officer
- Cynthia Isales, Assistant General Counsel
- Peter Lewandowski, Assistant General Counsel
- Brian O'Dowd, Assistant General Counsel
- George Edelman, Associate Accounts Examiner

The following respondents were also present at the meeting:

Michael Morrissey, on behalf of CT Propane Coalition; Susan Heller Williams, on behalf of AFT Connecticut; and Barry Williams, on behalf of the CT Library Association.

The following topics were addressed during the meeting:

1. The Minutes of the September 27, 2007 regular meeting were presented to the Board for approval. **The Board voted six (6) to zero (0) in favor.**
2. The Corrected Minutes of the September 11, 2007 meeting were presented to the Board for approval. **The Board voted six (6) to zero (0) in favor.**
3. The following Hearing Officer's Reports were considered by the Board:

- i. Office of State Ethics vs. AFT Connecticut and Susan Heller Williams, Docket # 2007-1UL.
- ii. Office of State Ethics vs. ConnPIRG and Christopher Phelps, Docket # 2007-2UL.
- iii. Office of State Ethics vs. CT Propane Coalition and Michael T. Morrissey, Docket # 2007-3UL.
- iv. Office of State Ethics vs. CT Library Association and Barry Williams, Docket # 2007-4UL.

Board Member Rion noted that these Reports were previously sent to the members of the Board via U.S. mail and that the Board therefore had the opportunity to thoroughly review the Reports.

The respondents in attendance were advised of the opportunity to address the members of the Board regarding the Hearing Officer's Reports. Susan Heller Williams and Barry Williams declined to address the Board.

**The Hearing Officer's Report for Docket No. 2007-1UL, Office of State Ethics vs. AFT Connecticut and Susan Heller Williams, was presented to the Board for approval. The vote was six (6) to zero (0) in favor.**

**The Hearing Officer's Report for Docket No. 2007-2UL, Office of State Ethics vs. ConnPIRG and Christopher Phelps was presented to the Board for approval. The vote was six (6) to zero (0) in favor.**

Mr. Michael Morrissey addressed the Board in connection with the Hearing Officer's Report for Docket No. 2007-3UL, Office of State Ethics vs. CT Propane Coalition and Michael Morrissey. **The Report was presented to the Board for approval. The vote was six (6) to zero (0) in favor.**

**The Hearing Officer's Report for Docket No. 2007-4UL, Office of State Ethics vs. CT Library Association and Barry Williams was presented to the Board for approval. The vote was six (6) to zero (0) in favor.**

Ethics Enforcement Officer TJ Jones requested that the Board give the respondents until the next Board meeting to pay the civil penalties that were imposed. The Board members agreed.

4. Ethics Enforcement Officer TJ Jones presented the Enforcement Division's report to the members of the Board.

- a. Ethics Enforcement Officer Jones presented to the Board the findings of five (5) audits for the following organizations: **Capitol Strategies Group, LLC, Halloran & Sage Government Affairs, LLC, Levin, Powers, Brennan & Shea, LLC, Hughes & Cronin Public Affairs Strategies, and Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.** Board member Dennis Riley raised concerns and questions about the audits for Capitol Strategies Group, LLC, and the corrective action's system of the OSE and its imposition of penalties. **The findings of the audits were presented to the Board for approval. The vote was five (5) to one (1) in favor, with Board member Dennis Riley voting against.**

5. Assistant General Counsel Brian O'Dowd presented the Board with the following draft advisory opinion: "Effect of P.A. No. 07-1 on 'Gifts to the State' from Restricted Donors." **The vote was five (5) to one (1) in favor, with Board Member Riley voting against.**

6. Assistant General Counsel Cynthia Isaacs presented the Board with the following draft advisory opinion: "Government Discounts." **The vote was six (6) to zero (0) in favor.**

7. Ms. Beverly Hodgson presented the Board with the Interim Executive Director's report. She addressed the appointment of members of the Board to three (3) committees within the State System of Higher Education. Chairperson Worgaftik indicated that Board members Riley and Bernstein volunteered to serve on the University of Connecticut, and the State University System committees, respectively. Regarding the Community Colleges, we have received notification that a committee has been formed. **Chairperson Worgaftik entertained a motion to accept Board Members Riley and Bernstein as the Board's representatives to the University of Connecticut, and the State University System committees. The vote was six (6) to zero (0) in favor.**

The Interim Executive Director then addressed the postings for the position of Executive Director and other positions within the agency, office support issues, computer-related issues, time records for the attorneys, requests for information from Senators Martin M. Looney and Andrew W. Roraback, and vacancies on the CEAB.

8. Assistant General Counsel Peter Lewandowski presented the Board with the staff's proposed legislative initiatives for the 2008 session. Board Member Rion suggested that Board Member Riley be consulted for his input regarding the proposals, due to his past experience in the legislature.

9. Lottery Selection of Registrants for Audit Ceremony, pursuant to Regulations of Conn. State Agencies § 1-92-56. Chairperson Worgaftik drew the following 20 registered lobbyists at the lottery ceremony in the order listed:

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|---|---|
| 1. Registrars of Voters Assoc. of CT                  | 12. CT Assoc Not for Profit Providers for Aging |
| 2. Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce                | 13. CT Academy of Physicians Assistants         |
| 3. Connecticut Association of School Psychologists    | 14. Congress of CT Community Colleges           |
| 4. CT Dental Hygienists' Association, Inc.            | 15. East Haven Economic Development Commission  |
| 5. CT Attorneys Title Insurance Co.                   | 16. Unilever Home & Personal Care               |
| 6. Reed Elsevier, Inc.                                | 17. CT Speech-Language-Hearing Association      |
| 7. Farmington West Estates                            | 18. Standard Parking Corporation                |
| 8. CT Chapter National Assoc. Housing & Redevelopment | 19. Blakeslee Arpaia Chapman                    |
| 9. CT Center for Massage Therapy, Inc.                | 20. Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce       |
| 10. Connecticut Financial Centers                     |   |
| 11. General Motors                                    |   |

**10. The Board moved into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation regarding Alan Plofsky, enforcement cases, and to convene the Personnel Search Committee in closed session.**

**11. The Board reconvened in public session and adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Iris E. D'Oleo-Edwin, Clerk  
Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_